

Soldiers as Safety Solutions

WHO: Company or battalion-level leaders

WHAT: Unit members themselves, particularly junior ones, ID hazards and risks, then suggest solutions (this is empowerment)

WHY: Fosters a leader-to-led partnership on risk management, which creates buy-in and commitment because junior members are involved; risk management by **Soldiers** for **Soldiers**

WHEN: Idea 1, any time; idea 2, regular periods, such as QTBs

TIME REQ'D: For the leader, about 30 min. per quarter; for members, about 2 hrs per quarter

HOW (idea 1):

1. Bn or Co Cdr picks an outgoing, squared away, competent Soldier (PFC or below) that displays solid risk conscious beliefs and behavior. Appoint them as a Safety Soldier for the formation
2. Use your Safety Soldier for two things: a) feedback on how well safety programs are permeating the organization; 2) fresh ideas on how to "get to" the risky population better
3. Highlight them and their contributions every chance you get

HOW (idea 2):

1. Establish a Unit Mission Protection Council (UMPC) and select appropriate members (6 is good); they need not be model citizens* and should be a cross-section of who you have
2. Officer or senior NCO chairs it, assigns one issue or area for council to examine each quarter (e.g., transportation, training, off duty); to keep solutions practical, set limits on time, people, or \$\$\$ that can be used
3. The group looks at hazards/risk on the activity, then forms feasible fixes
4. One member chosen per quarter to brief findings and recommendations to the UMPC chair on the given issue
5. Goal is for adoption/implementation of every feasible idea without becoming risk averse; member empowerment creates buy-in for solutions

***There is merit in assigning a few known risk takers to the council, since the whole process can open their eyes & get them to think more about their own behavior**